Message

From: Ross, Mary [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=98359CD1F66F46EC91D327E99A3C6909-ROSS, MARY]
Sent: 12/13/2015 9:53:09 PM
To: ORD-NCEA [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9fd27be854b0475e8c7da44e626886aa-ORD-NCEA]
Subject: Fw: ORD/OSA Weekly

FYI - happy news on a few NCEA actions:

From: Blackburn, Elizabeth
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2015 12:51 PM
To: ORD-Mgmt-Council; ORD-Exec-Council-Directors; ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support
Subject: Fwd: ORD/OSA Weekly

Hello all from unseasonably warm DC!

Please see Tom's weekly note to the Administrator below.

Liz

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Burke, Thomas" <Burke.Thomas@epa.gov>
> **Date:** December 13, 2015 at 11:27:21 AM EST
> **To:** "Adm13McCarthy, Gina" <Adm13McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov>, "Meiburg, Stan" <Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov>, "Purchia, Liz" <Purchia.Liz@epa.gov>, "Vaught, Laura" <Vaught.Laura@epa.gov>, "Distefano, Nichole" <DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov>, "Beauvais, Joel" <Beauvais.Joel@epa.gov>, "McCabe, Janet" <McCabe.Janet@epa.gov>, "Garbow, Avi" <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>, "Fritz, Matthew" <Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov>, "Pieh, Luseni" <Pieh.Luseni@epa.gov>, "Scaggs, Ben" <Scaggs.Ben@epa.gov>, "Rupp, Mark" <Rupp.Mark@epa.gov>, "Garvin, Shawn" <garvin.shawn@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** "Kavlock, Robert" <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>, "Blackburn, Elizabeth" <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Kadeli, Lek" <Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov>, "Robbins, Chris" <Robbins.Chris@epa.gov>, "Deener, Kathleen" <Deener.Kathleen@epa.gov>, "Smith, Kelley" <Smith.Kelley@epa.gov>, "Hubbard, Carolyn" <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>, "Kim, Hyon" <Kim.Hyon@epa.gov>
> **Subject: ORD/OSA Weekly**
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> Administrator,
>
> First, congratulations on the Paris agreement. We all look forward to continuing to advance the science to support and fulfill the goals.

Last week we had a very good briefing and discussion with the regional and program leaders on the ORD modeling of the GKM impacts. We look forward to briefing you and Stan.

We continue to move ahead on framing our approach to tire crumb playing fields. Working with CDC and CPSC we have prepared a draft approach to address gaps and understand potential exposures. We are also making sure o coordinate with California.

On Tuesday we hope to release the IRIS Multi-Year Agenda. We briefed OMB last Friday and we are working closely with OAR in advance of the release. This week we will be meeting with OAR to develop a coordinated approach to diesel.

This week I will be leading a meeting of the Science and Technology Policy Council. The STPC is the major science coordination committee for the Agency We have been working to revise the charter and enable the group to be more nimble and responsive to the science needs of the programs and regions.

This week I will also have the pleasure of meeting with my fellow federal chief scientists to discuss science translation and communication across the government.

IRIS Multi-Year Agenda
The IRIS Multi Year Agenda is a brief statement of several ongoing or upcoming activities related to health assessments developed within IRIS. It incorporates input from EPA program and regional offices and identifies the top priority chemical assessments that the IRIS program will begin in the next few years. We are planning to release the Multi-Year Agenda on December 15 to inform the public and stakeholders of ongoing and future chemical assessment activities.

Germany's largest scientific organization invites ORD to present on the exposome
December 14th-15th, the Helmoltz Centre of Environmental Research is hosting a workshop in Leipzig, Germany to bring together 30 leading experts to explore the use of exposome research in environmental toxicity and human health impairment. The exposome is the concept of the totality of non-genetic exposures (i.e., both chemicals and non-chemicals from both endogenous and exogenous sources).

EPA-RTP's STEM Outreach Program
December 14th-16th, in addition to 3 elementary schools events, ORD scientists will lead hands-on environmental science activities for middle school students at Durham, North Carolina's Hub Farm. These activities will focus on air quality and climate, and will include learning to calculate the economic benefits of trees on the farm, how food choices can affect climate, and the impacts of climate change on ecosystems.

EPA scientists meet with EDF and Google to discuss sensor technologies

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and Google will convene a meeting in San Francisco on December 15th to discuss environmental sensor technologies. The discussion will center on sensor performance evaluation protocols, calibration, and the establishment of data and metadata standards. EPA's main goal is to engage the other participants in finding open solutions that allow for seamless integration and interoperability for this technology sector.

STAR Grantees

STAR grantees continue to demonstrate critically needed scientific expertise and eminence in the earth and space sciences. Eleven of the new American Geophysical Union Fellows who will be honored at the annual meeting in San Francisco next week have been funded by STAR, and half are cited for research contributions made with STAR funded projects. For example, Tami Bond (University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana) and Jose Jimenez (University of Colorado at Boulder) have changed how we understand black carbon emissions and organic aerosol formation respectively. Hans Paerl (UNC at Chapel Hill) identified impacts of key ecological changes and Cynthia Rosenzweig (NASA) advanced understanding of climate change impacts in the urban environment.

Last Week

Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Meeting

Last week the BOSC Executive Committee (EC) met in DC to deliberate on the five draft subcommittee reports related to ORD's Strategic Research Action Plans. They also discussed charge questions on ORD's cross-cutting research roadmaps on Environmental Justice and Climate Change. The BOSC EC is comprised of multidisciplinary scientists ranging from risk assessors to engineers as well as experts in social sciences, climate change and other key areas of the EPA research portfolio. The BOSC identified the role of social science and the development of metrics of impact as two common threads that they recommend working on with us over the next year or so. In the next few months, the BOSC EC will submit their recommendations to ORD to improve the quality and relevance of the research.

IRIS Progress Report and Report to Congress

On December 10, ORD released the IRIS Progress Report and Report to Congress. As part of the 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, we were directed to provide a report to Congress detailing how the program is addressing a number of high priority recommendations. The purpose of the report is to update Congress, stakeholders, and the public on the status of the IRIS program's implementation of the most recent NRC recommendations.

Community Multi-Scale Air Quality Model (CMAQ) v5.1 Released

CMAQ is an active, open-source, air quality simulation model. CMAQ can now model pollution across the Northern Hemisphere and at the city level. EPA and states rely on CMAQ to inform air quality management decisions and it is used by thousands in over 50 countries. This major upgrade offers many new capabilities for researchers to answer more complex air quality questions.

2012 EPA Sustainability Award Winner

Thabit Pulak, the 2012 EPA Patrick Hurd Sustainability Award winner is now attending Duke on a full scholarship and "it is because of encouragement and enrichment from people like you and organizations like the EPA that have kept me continuing this project for so many years!" His clean water project focused on arsenic removal using nanotechnology and he established a non profit that manufactures over 50 filters a month.

Publications

Adverse Outcome Pathways—Organizing Toxicological Information to Improve Decision Making

This manuscript has been chosen as the cover article for the January issue of the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The mini-review provides brief coverage of the state of the science regarding AOPs intended for scientists less familiar with the field. The authors also tackle the similarities and differences between an AOP and a mode of action and discuss how AOPs can inform an MOA analysis as well as integrated approaches to testing and assessment.